AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

The following is a copy of Applicants' claims that identifies language being added with underlining ("___") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("~~—~~"), as is applicable:

1. (Currently Amended) A digital camera, comprising:

means for merging at least two images of a scene to form a merged image, the at least two images including different views of the scene;

means for cropping the merged image; and

means for storing an uncropped portion of the merged image such that, responsive to the at least two images being captured, the means for storing stores the at least two images in memory and provides the at least two images for merging;

wherein, subsequent to cropping of the merged image, the uncropped portion is stored by the means for storing and a corresponding cropped portion is deleted ~~therefrom~~ such that the cropped portion of the merged image is not stored in memory of the digital camera.

2. (Previously Presented) The digital camera recited in claim 1, further comprising means for deleting a cropped portion of the merged image.

3. – 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The digital camera recited in claim 1 wherein the at least two images of the scene are captured sequentially in time.

6. (Previously Presented) The digital camera recited in claim 1 wherein the at least two images of the scene are captured simultaneously.

7. (Previously Presented) The digital camera recited in claim 1 wherein the at least two captured images have an overlapping image field.

8. (Previously Presented) The digital camera recited in claim 1 wherein the at least two captured images have substantially the same image field.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling the operation of a digital camera, comprising:

storing, in memory of the digital camera, at least two captured images representing different image views of a scene;

merging, in the digital camera, the at least two captured images to form a merged image;

displaying the merged image on a display of the digital camera;

~~storing, in the digital camera, an uncropped portion of the merged image; and~~

deleting a cropped portion of the merged image such that information corresponding to cropped portions of the captured images are no longer ~~stored~~ present in the digital camera;

storing, in memory of the digital camera, an uncropped portion of the merged image such that the cropped portion of the merged image is not stored in the memory.

10. – 12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The method recited in claim 9 further comprising capturing at least two images sequentially in time.

14. (Previously Presented) The method recited in claim 9 further comprising capturing at least two images simultaneously.

15. (Previously Presented) The method recited in claim 9 wherein the at least two captured images have an overlapping image field.

16. (Previously Presented) The method recited in claim 9 wherein the at least two captured images have the same image field.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for controlling the operation of a digital camera, comprising:

logic that merges at least two captured images, which have been stored in memory, corresponding to two different image views of a scene to form a merged image in the digital camera;

logic that stores an uncropped portion of the merged image in memory of the digital camera; and

logic that deletes a cropped portion of the merged image prior to storing the uncropped portion of the merged image such that information corresponding to cropped portions of the captured images are no longer ~~stored~~ present in the digital camera.

18. – 19. (Cancelled).

20. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium recited in claim 17 wherein the at least two captured images correspond to images that are captured sequentially in time.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium recited in claim 17 wherein the at least two captured images correspond to images that are captured simultaneously.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium recited in claim 17 wherein the at least two captured images have an overlapping image field.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium recited in claim 17 wherein the at least two captured images have the same image field.